AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-54. (Canceled)

Claim 55. (Currently Amended) A method for treating an article with a mollusc repellent composition which method comprises applying to the surface of said article, a mollusc repellant composition comprising an effective amount of a substantially insoluble metal oxalate and a suitable carrier therefor,

wherein the article is above ground or in the soil, and wherein the mollusc is from the family *Agriolimidae* or *Helicadae*.

Claim 56. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 55, wherein the metal of the metal oxalate is a transition metal or a transition metal in combination with a non-transition metal.

Claim 57. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 55, wherein the metal is iron(II) or iron(III), aluminum, zinc or copper.

Claim 58. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 55, wherein the metal oxalate is ferric potassium oxalate or copper oxalate.

Claim 59. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 55, wherein the amount of metal oxalate is between 2% to 100% by weight of the total composition.

Claim 60. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 59, wherein the amount of metal oxalate is between 2% to 10% by weight of the total composition.

Claim 61. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 55, wherein the metal oxalate is present as an aqueous suspension.

Claim 62. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 55, wherein the carrier comprises a binder to facilitate the adhesion of the metal oxalate onto the surface of an article to be treated.

Claim 63. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 62, wherein the binder comprises between 0.1% and 100% by weight of the carrier.

Claim 64. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 55, wherein the mollusc repellent composition further comprises a fungicide.

Claim 65. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 64, wherein the fungicide comprises about 0.05% to 1.0% by weight of the total composition.

Claim 66. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 55, wherein the composition further comprises a diluent to enable even coverage of the article to which the repellent is to be applied.

Claim 67. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 66, wherein the diluent comprises between about 0% to 95% by weight of the total composition.

Claim 68. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 55, wherein the composition further comprises a growth hormone.

Claim 69. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, wherein the growth hormone is a seaweed extract.

Claim 70. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, wherein the growth hormone comprises between 0.05% and 1% by weight of the total composition.

Claim 71. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 55, wherein the composition comprises a metal oxalate in combination with at least one other mollusc repellent.

Claim 72. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 55, wherein the article to be treated is an animate or an inanimate article.

Claim 73. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 56, wherein the animate article is a seed having the potential to produce at least one root, and a growth hormone is readily available to the at least one root as it emerges from the seed.

Claim 74. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 72, wherein the inanimate article is a weed mats, an outlet pipe for cooling systems, a hull of a ship, a driveways of a home, or a grow-bag.

Claim 75. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 55, wherein the form of the repellent is a solid, a suspension, or a coating composition.

Claim 76. (Currently Amended) A mollusc repellent composition comprising an effective amount of a substantially insoluble metal oxalate and an suitable carrier therefor; wherein the mollusc is from the family *Agriolimidae* or *Helicadae*.

Claim 77. (Previously Presented) The mollusc repellent composition of claim 76, wherein the metal of the metal oxalate is a transition metal or a transition metal in combination with a non-transition metal.

Claim 78. (Previously Presented) The mollusc repellent composition of claim 76, wherein the metal is iron(II) or iron(III), aluminum, zinc or copper.

Claim 79. (Previously Presented) The mollusc repellent composition of claim 55, wherein the metal oxalate is ferric potassium oxalate or copper oxalate.

Claim 80. (Previously Presented) The mollusc repellent composition of claim 76, wherein the amount of metal oxalate is between 2% to 100% by weight of the total composition.

Claim 81. (Previously Presented) The mollusc repellent composition of claim 80, wherein the amount of metal oxalate is between 2% to 10% by weight of the total composition.

Claim 82. (Previously Presented) The mollusc repellent composition of claim 76, wherein the metal oxalate is present as an aqueous suspension.

Claim 83. (Previously Presented) The mollusc repellent composition of claim 76, wherein the carrier comprises a binder to facilitate the adhesion of the metal oxalate onto the surface of an article to be treated.

Claim 84. (Previously Presented) The mollusc repellent composition of claim 83, wherein the binder comprises between 0.1% and 100% by weight of the carrier.

Claim 85. (Previously Presented) The mollusc repellent composition of claim 76, further comprising a fungicide.

Claim 86. (Previously Presented) The mollusc repellent composition of claim 85, wherein the fungicide comprises about 0.05% to 1.0% by weight of the total composition.

Claim 87. (Previously Presented) The mollusc repellent composition of claim 76, wherein the composition further comprises a diluent to enable even coverage of the article to which the repellent is to be applied.

Claim 88. (Previously Presented) The mollusc repellent composition of claim 87, wherein the diluent comprises between about 0% to 95% by weight of the total composition.

Claim 89. (Previously Presented) The mollusc repellent composition of claim 76, wherein the composition further comprises a growth hormone.

Claim 90. (Previously Presented) The mollusc repellent composition of claim 89, wherein the growth hormone is a seaweed extract.

Claim 91. (Previously Presented) The mollusc repellent composition of claim 89, wherein the growth hormone comprises between 0.05% and 1% by weight of the total composition.

Claim 92. (Previously Presented) The mollusc repellent composition of claim 76, wherein the composition comprises a metal oxalate in combination with at least one other mollusc repellent.

Claim 93. (Previously Presented) The mollusc repellent composition of claim 76, wherein said composition is in the form of coating composition.

Claim 94. (Previously Presented) The mollusc repellent composition of claim 76, wherein said composition is in the form of a paint.

Claim 95. (Previously Presented) The mollusc repellent composition of claim 94, wherein the carrier is an aqueous surfactant solution, an aqueous polyvinyl acetate solution, or an oil-based paint.

Claim 96. (Withdrawn) A mollusc repellent composition suitable for sustainable agricultural purposes comprising:

(i) an effective amount of an aqueous solution of oxalic acid or soluble metal oxalate; and

(ii) an effective amount of an aqueous solution of a soluble metal salt,

whereby sequential application of the two solutions, in either order, results in the *in situ* preparation of a substantially insoluble metal oxalate as an aqueous suspension.